

News Release

33 S. State Street / Chicago, Illinois 60603
Pat Quinn, Governor
Maureen O'Donnell, Director



FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE
April 21, 2011

Greg Rivara
Phone: (312) 814-0095
www.ILWorkInfo.com
www.ides.illinois.gov

Local Unemployment Falls Across State 4th Consecutive Month *Job Growth Reported in 11 of 12 Economic Regions*

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	March 2011*	March 2010
Bloomington-Normal	6.9%	8.2%
Champaign-Urbana	7.8%	9.2%
Chicago-Joliet-Naperville	8.7%	11.1%
Danville	10.6%	13.2%
Davenport-Moline-Rock Isl.	8.1%	9.6%
Decatur	10.7%	13.2%
Kankakee-Bradley	12.7%	15.0%
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	10.3%	12.4%
Peoria	9.1%	11.9%
Rockford	13.3%	17.2%
Springfield	7.6%	8.9%
St. Louis (IL-Section)	9.6%	11.6%

* Data subject to revision.

CHICAGO – In March, the year-over-year unemployment rate fell in every county in Illinois for an unprecedented fourth consecutive month, according to preliminary data released today by the Illinois Department of Employment Security. The not seasonally adjusted data compares March 2011 to March 2010. The data set began in 1974.

Unemployment rates also fell in every metropolitan area for a record seventh consecutive month. That has not occurred since this data set was created in 1984. The largest declines were: Rockford (-3.9 points to 13.3 percent), Peoria (-2.8 points to 9.1 percent), Danville (-2.6 points to 10.6 percent), Decatur (-2.5 points to 10.7 percent), and Chicago-Joliet-Naperville (-2.4 points to 8.7 percent). Over the year, total payroll jobs increased in 11 metropolitan areas and decreased in one. The largest over-the-year percentage increases in total non-farm jobs were Peoria (+3.8 percent, +6,600), Decatur (+2.1 percent, +1,100), Chicago-Joliet-Naperville area (+1.3 percent, +44,800), and the Quad Cities (+1.3 percent, +2,200). Four industry sectors saw over-the-year job growth in nine metro areas each, including Mining and Construction; Manufacturing; Professional and Business Services; and Educational and Health Services.

“Today’s report is encouraging because the long-term trends of job creation and falling unemployment rates again are visible,” IDES Director Maureen O’Donnell said. “Success in any job market is tied to educational achievement and vocational training. Individuals who have not updated their skills since the Great Recession need to leverage employment service programs to assess potential career paths and identify where help can be obtained.”

Not seasonally adjusted data compares the current month to the same month of the previous year. The March 2011 not seasonally adjusted state rate was 9.1 percent and 12.1 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the rate was 9.2 percent in March and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work. A person ineligible for benefits still will be reflected in the unemployment rate if they continue to look for work.

Total Non-farm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – March 2011

Metropolitan Area	March 2011*	March 2010**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington-Normal MSA	91,300	90,400	900
Champaign-Urbana MSA	109,600	110,600	-1,000
Chicago-Joliet-Naperville Metro Div.	3,590,800	3,546,000	44,800
Danville MSA	28,900	28,700	200
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	177,700	175,500	2,200
Decatur MSA	52,300	51,200	1,100
Kankakee-Bradley MSA	42,300	42,100	200
Lake County-Kenosha County Metro Div.	366,400	364,700	1,700
Peoria MSA	179,300	172,700	6,600
Rockford MSA	143,400	142,300	1,100
Springfield MSA	110,900	109,900	1,000
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	232,400	232,000	400

*Preliminary **Revised